Beaver Survey

November 27-December 4, 2026

Daily fee: $50 | Total: $400

Language: Spanish and English

Location: Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico

Cuenca Los Ojos is putting ecosystem restoration back into nature's hands. Beavers are powerful ecosystem engineers: they slow water, recharge aquifers, reduce erosion, create wetlands, and build habitat for fish, birds, amphibians, insects, and mammals.

Participants will assist surveying the Cajón Bonito, the main aquatic artery of the Cuenca Reserve. Field teams will look for chews, slides, lodges, dams, and other evidence to estimate local beaver presence and identify suitable reintroduction sites. This experience includes a training session led by regional experts, collaborative science with Reserve staff, and several days of trekking through the Cajón Bonito, one of the most beautiful examples of recovering riparian habitat in the Sky Islands region. Participants will learn from wildlife biologists and riparian specialists while contributing directly to Cuenca's growing rewilding work. This is a limited opportunity to support beaver recovery at the southern edge of their range and reconnect Mexican waterways with one of North America's most important keystone species.

There is some timing flexibility associated with this experience. Survey training will occur on November 29, in the afternoon. Survey days are November 30 - December 3. Visitors can arrive at the Reserve any time between the afternoon of November 27 and midday November 29, all volunteers are required to be at the Cuenca Reserve by midday, November 29. Volunteers are able to depart from the Cuenca Reserve anytime between December 2 and the morning of December 4. All arrivals and departures must be pre-approved by Cuenca staff. **All event volunteers must register online.**

What to expect:

• Arrival day and orientation: November 27

•Departure day and reflection: December 4

• Rustic, shared accommodation with home-cooked Mexican meals

• 6 full field days that can last between 6 to 10 hours

• Hiking through riparian canyons, streams, and thick vegetation